

Bridge Team
Minutes of Meeting
Wednesday, June 20, 2007

Meeting Attendees

Al Avant
Norma Smith
Jay Bennett, PE
Jessica Kuse, PE
Tom Drda, PE
Dan Holderman, PE

Cary Clemmons
Bill Goodwin, PE
David Chang
C. David Greene
Neil Lassiter, Jr., PE
Greg Perfetti, PE

Ellis Powell, PE
Njroge Wainaina, PE
Donna Dancausse
Jeff Vones, PE

1. Welcome, Review Agenda, Discuss Comments on Team Charter

It was noted that no comments had been received on the Charter. The only remaining task is to define the specifics of the goal.

2. Discuss Bridge Activity Definitions

No further discussion on the definitions previously transmitted with the May 10th minutes.

3. Review Data on Current Bridge Performance

Mr. Cary Clemmons of Bridge Maintenance presented three visuals: Age of Bridges, Percent of Bridges Rated Good, and Percent Structurally Deficient and Functionally Obsolete Division Bridges by Tier. A discussion ensued regarding how the data might be used to develop the Bridge Team sufficiency rating goal. A pie chart depicting the elements of the sufficiency rating was discussed and is attached. Ideas such as separating FO and SD data was suggested as it may be more appropriate to focus on deficiency. Dan Holderman stated that tier criteria should be included as it is important for the statewide goal to exceed the national average.

A question was raised as to whether the Team should become educated regarding the project selection/programming process prior to the goal development. Bill Goodwin stated that there is enough flexibility in the selection process to proceed.

Cary agreed to develop further data as necessary to assist in goal development as each bridge has a tier classification associated with it.

4. Determine Team Priorities and Action Plan

Summary of voting on initiatives was presented and work groups were designated for the top-ranked as follows:

Initiative 1 - Include bridge criteria in the 3-R Guide – 12 votes

Currently all bridges are designed to the same standard resulting in some bridges having design characteristics that appear excessive. Design for appropriate use and site specific criteria such as operating speed versus statutory speed, hydraulically in-kind, etc. Include tier concept. Identify where to increase or lower standard.

The team agreed to establish a work group as follows:

Team Lead - Jay Bennett

Team Members - Bill Goodwin, Mike Robinson, Allen Raynor, Division involvement, Bridge Maintenance, Hydraulics, Geotech, Traffic, FHWA

Jay will convene the group, develop an action plan and schedule, and report to the BT at the next meeting.

Initiative 2 - Reexamine current TIP – 9 votes

Several years have passed since the bridge projects were programmed. Are current priorities properly reflected? The selection criteria used for programming did not include current budget constraints, environmental issues, etc. May need to look at selection process including the amount of division involvement.

Initiative 18 - Update process of estimating bridge project cost – 5 votes

Explore transitioning to an existing square foot method. This would reflect the increase in bridge lengths and widths that are inherent in the design process.

The team agreed it was a good idea to combine these initiatives and established a work group as follows:

Team Lead - Bill Goodwin

Team Members - Norma Smith, Dan Holderman, Neil Lassiter, Al Avant, David Chang, Ricky Keith, SDU Estimator, Roadway, Tom Drda

Bill will convene the group, develop an action plan and schedule, and report to the BT at the next meeting.

Initiative 4 - Update the bridge preservation program – 7 votes

Investigate appropriate preservation activities and funding level to extend the useful life. Balance the funding levels between replacement/rehabilitation/preservation and investigate alternate funding sources. Requires a systematic approach applied to a corridor.

The team agreed to establish a work group as follows:

Team Lead - Tom Drda

Team Members - Division involvement (Neil Lassiter), Bridge Maintenance, Programming, PDEA, Lacy Love, Project Services (Randy Garris), SDU

Tom will convene the group, develop an action plan and schedule, and report to the BT at the next meeting.

Initiative 3 - Develop overarching goal for the program – 5 votes

Is the goal “To have X percent of the bridges with a sufficiency rating greater than 80 by 20XX” appropriate? If so, define the specific percentage and date. Further break down by tier (statewide, regional, sub-regional) may be beneficial. Reflect an adaptive management approach.

The team agreed to establish a work group as follows:

Team Lead - Greg Perfetti

Team Members - Neil Lassiter, Dan Holderman, Cary Clemmons, Jay Bennett, Bill Goodwin, Tom Drda, Ellis Powell

Greg will convene the group, develop an action plan and schedule, and report to the BT at the next meeting.

The voting results of the remaining initiatives were as follows:

I-13 Strategic letting of projects – 5 votes

I-9 Maintaining traffic during construction – 4 votes

I-10 LRFD implementation mandate – 4 votes

I-7 Determine process for distributing funds – 3 votes

I-17 Efficient environmental stewardship – 3 votes

I-14 Contingency projects – 2 votes

I-5 Investigate alternate financing sources – 1 vote

I-6 Increase awareness of bridge program needs – 1 vote

I-8 Develop index reference to illustrate needs vs. availability to meet needs by division – 1 vote

I-11 Look for economies in design process – 1 vote

I-12 Investigate rapid construction techniques and innovative materials – 1 vote

I-15 Guidance on structure type selection – 1 vote

I-16 Information sharing – 0 votes

5. Next Meeting: August 6, 2007; 10:00-12:00

Tentative agenda items were identified:

- Initiative work group status reports
- Discuss how the Bridge Team will address technical issues
 - *Norma Smith will provide the template that has been developed for Technical Bulletins.*
- Review the list of technical issues